



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - December 2, 2003**

- ***In the West***, dry weather prevails across the majority of the region, maintaining hydrological drought concerns across the ***Great Basin, Southwest, and Rocky Mountain States***. In contrast, showers are again approaching the ***Pacific Northwest***, where wet conditions persist from the ***Cascades westward***.
- ***On the Plains***, dry weather persists across ***central and southern portions of the region***, despite an increase in cloudiness. Although the dry conditions favor final summer crop harvesting on the ***southern High Plains***, much of the winter wheat crop continues to suffer from a lack of moisture.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, soggy fields continue to slow final corn harvesting in the ***lower Great Lakes States***, while cold, dry weather prevails elsewhere in the ***Midwest***.
- ***In the South***, mild, dry weather favors late-autumn fieldwork, especially in the ***southern Atlantic States***, where winter wheat planting and soybean and cotton harvests continue.

**Outlook:** A high-pressure system will maintain cold, mostly dry weather through mid-week across the ***eastern half of the U.S.***, although scattered snow showers will linger in the ***Northeast***. Meanwhile, light rain and snow will develop on the ***central and southern Plains***, while locally heavy precipitation will accompany a strong cold front crossing the ***Pacific Northwest***. During the latter half of the week, rain and snow will spread eastward into the ***Mississippi Valley***, while a potential winter storm may produce high winds, coastal rains, and inland snows in the ***Appalachians, Mid-Atlantic States, and Northeast***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for December 7-11 calls for above-normal precipitation across much of the ***West, South, and northern New England***, while drier-than-normal conditions are expected across the ***Midwest*** and the ***northern half of the Plains***. Above-normal temperatures are likely across much of the U.S., with cooler-than-normal weather limited to the ***eastern Gulf Coast and southern Atlantic regions***.

**Contact:** Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)

**Web Site:** <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>